

August 15, 2011
11:00 A.M.
Newport, Oregon

Councilors present: Beemer, McConnell, Brusselback, Allen, Bertuleit, Roumagoux, and Sawyer (arrived at 11:39 A.M.).

Staff present: Voetberg, Hawker, Marshall, Miranda, and Protiva.

Council discussed the following items:

1. Council heard a presentation on the defined benefit plan from David Dougherty. A discussion ensued regarding a possible soft freeze and the impact on employees. Allen noted that he would like the city manager to run the idea past the bargaining unit for buy-in prior to enactment. McConnell asked for a comparison of the benefit to that of other cities, and Marshall agreed to provide this information. Voetberg noted that if Council is in agreement on imposing a soft freeze, staff can begin talks with the bargaining unit. Allen noted that he is not necessarily on board with a soft freeze, and that he would like additional discussion.
2. MOTION was made by Roumagoux, seconded by Allen, to enter executive session, pursuant to ORS 192.660(2)(d) to consult with the city's labor negotiator. The motion carried unanimously in a voice vote, and Council entered executive session at 11:40 A.M.
3. MOTION was made by Bertuleit, seconded by Brusselback, to return to the City Council work session. The motion carried unanimously in a voice vote, and Council returned to its work session at 12:25 P.M.
4. Council discussed the issue of single-use plastic bag mitigation. Allen asked representatives from the Surfrider's Foundation whether it is a goal to revisit the issue with state legislators during the next session, and whether Surfrider's is looking at cities implementing a bag now. He added that if larger cities enact a ban, it might have more impact with the legislature. Charlie Plybon, representing the Surfrider's Foundation, reported that a consistent policy is the goal. Allen asked whether the plastic bag mitigation issue will surface in larger cities this year, and Plybon reported that it would. Allen asked whether there is something less than a bag ban, such as a reaffirmation of the city's interest in a statewide ban that would work until this matter returns to the legislature next year. Plybon noted that stronger action is needed at the local level. Matt Hawkyard, representing the Surfrider's Foundation, noted that the issue moved forward last year with the goal of a state wide resolution, but that it was turned down by the legislature. He noted that Surfrider's is interested in working on the issue on a city-wide basis. Allen asked whether Hawkyard has approached local grocers for their thoughts and perspective on a local ban. He noted that outreach is critical to the issues. McConnell asked whether folks could be encouraged not to use plastic bags and make it a choice rather than a law. Plybon noted that a strong public education campaign, on behalf of the city, could further the

efforts. McConnell suggested using the city to promote businesses making the choice. Matt Hawkyard reported that he is interested in pursuing the issue on a city-wide basis since the state initiative failed last year. Allen asked whether Hawkyard had approached local grocers for their perspective, noting that public outreach is critical. McConnell asked whether folks could be encouraged not to use plastic bags, and make it a choice rather than a law. He suggested using the city to promote businesses making a choice not to use single-use plastic bags. A discussion ensued regarding the education of retailers. Further discussion ensued regarding the recycling of single-use plastic bags. Plybon reported that only 9 - 11% of plastic bags are recycled statewide. McConnell suggested obtaining a copy of what the Surfrider Foundation and OLCV would perceive as good state law; look at the local business community; and discuss what the city can do, short of enacting an ordinance that would make the community stand out. Plybon noted that there must be a goal regarding what the business outreach and community campaign would look like. Sawyer asked whether there is a way to quantify costs to the city of single-use plastic bags. Brusselback asked how a local ordinance would differ from statewide legislation. He suggested public outreach and then drafting an ordinance that has the public support. McConnell suggested holding a hearing for input in the fall. McConnell suggested working on this issue until another Council discussion can occur at the October 3, 2011 work session, with a plan for a public hearing on a proposed ordinance at the meeting of October 17, 2011. Brusselback suggested inviting someone from Portland to attend the hearing and explain why Portland needed this ordinance ahead of state legislation. Allen stated that he would like to use a model of consideration first; would like to invite the coastal legislators to the hearing; and would like to do underlying research and communication. Hawkyard reported that the experience in Newport has been positive and suggested looking at this opportunity to move forward. Plybon stated that he will supply a model ordinance. McConnell suggested a discussion with the Destination Newport Committee as a possible marketing opportunity.

5. A discussion ensued regarding tsunami readiness. Beemer reported that he, Garbarino, and Murphy will attend a meeting regarding subduction zone earthquakes, and will return with material for the Council. He reported that he and Tokos have been preparing for a presentation on Safe Haven Hill, but that a geotech study must be performed first. After the geotech study is completed, a meeting will be scheduled with stakeholders. Joyce Gaffin stated that she lives in the area south of the jetty and west of Abalone, and that her neighborhood has not been included in the discussion of tsunami egress. It was suggested that an exit be developed on 28th Street between Brant and Abalone Streets. It was noted that the path on the south side of the cemetery needs maintenance. Gaffin suggested that the utility lines be undergrounded. Beemer assured Gaffin that her neighborhood is on the radar screen and that she will be appointed to represent the area when a working group is developed. A discussion ensued regarding the evacuation practice on October 15 and the possible participation of residents in Gaffin's neighborhood. McConnell noted that October 20 is the date of the "Great Oregon Shake-Out," and recommended that October be proclaimed as tsunami/earthquake education month and that this become an annual event. Sawyer reported that a new CERT group will be starting on September 27. Gaffin asked that the city encourage residents of the

Coho/Brant neighborhood to participate, and that owners be requested to inform tenants. McConnell suggested including Idaho Point in the drill.

6. Voetberg addressed the herbicide policy draft that was included in the packet. He noted that while the focus is on herbicides, the police included integrated pest management. He noted that there are no pest problems. It was noted that the draft is a result of discussion of the Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee and two public hearings. It was noted that all sides were interested in reducing chemical usage. Protiva reported that the Parks and Recreation Department is not using chemicals. He reported that during the public hearings there were more than 40 emails received, and that 100% were in favor of not using herbicides on parks, at the Recreation Center, Library, City Hall, and in city-owned rights-of-way. Brusselback stated that Lincoln City has a complete ban on the use of herbicides, and asked whether anyone knew how it was working. He asked whether the Committee was reluctant to completely ban herbicides. He asked for an example of the type of vegetation that would require herbicide as opposed to manual extraction. Protiva reported that there is no reason to use herbicides to remove certain hardy species. Protiva noted that he had not sought airport input in the development of the policy. Maxine Centala and Tom Kerns, representing Concerned Citizens for Clean Air, stated that the draft policy is inadequate. It was noted that this group would like a policy allowing the use of some chemicals. It was further noted that the policy did not state, "where children play." They suggested adopting a policy similar to Waldport's which requires the use of herbicides to be approved by the city manager. McConnell suggested an outright ban with a caveat that allows for use in extreme situations. Allen stated that he would like to see examples of other coastal policies. McConnell noted that a policy that is simple, easy to read, and follow should be developed.
7. A discussion ensued regarding the draft Adopt-a-Park policy. McConnell distributed a letter from Rebekah Belloni. McConnell asked whether the policy can be expanded to include city blocks. It was asked whether businesses could adopt a park. It was suggested that the reference to Hillsboro be removed, and that the policy be sent to legal counsel for review, and that it appear on the agenda of the next regular meeting for adoption.
8. It was noted that an Urban Renewal Agency work session has been scheduled for August 29, 2011, at 6:00 P.M. A discussion ensued regarding the agenda for this session.
9. McConnell distributed correspondence regarding the canyon off Eads Street noting that it could possibly be used for a trail to the Bayfront from Highway 20.

Having no further business, the meeting adjourned at 2:55 P.M.